

~~SECRET~~

20 November 1985

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: D/ICS Luncheon Meeting with Jon Thomas, State/INM, on 21 November 1985

1. Jon Thomas is the State Department's principal officer for international narcotics matters (see attached biography). In August 1978, when the Congress created the office of International Narcotics Matters (INM), it mandated that INM was to be responsible for developing and implementing international narcotics control policies. INM sees itself as a principal consumer of policy level narcotics intelligence, and, as such, expects to play a large role in shaping intelligence requirements to meet these needs.

2. Jon Thomas was confirmed in his position on October 10, 1984. Mark Dion and Ann Wroblewski, the Deputy Assistant Secretaries in INM, are all relatively new to INM, but not to narcotic matters. Mark served in Southeast Asia, was DCM in Rangoon, [redacted]

[redacted] Ann Wroblewski comes from Ms. Reagan's staff at the White House and has been active on the domestic drug abuse scene. She has traveled a good bit to narcotics trouble spots and has what appears to be an intuitive feel for the international narcotics scene.

3. Over the past years, several new organizations have been created within the USG to deal with the narcotics problem--all of them with relatively high-level support--and all of them seeking substantial narcotics intelligence support. Chief among these, of course, have been the National Narcotics Border Interdiction System (NNBIS) and now the National Drug Enforcement Policy Board (NDEPB). Add to this the growing demands over the years of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the US Coast Guard for intelligence information and you have a situation which taxes intelligence resources severely. More importantly, it has to some degree changed what has always been a principal focus of the Community's narcotics effort.

4. Although the Community has traditionally emphasized the collection and analysis of so-called "strategic" intelligence, [redacted]

~~SECRET~~

SECRET

25X1

SUBJECT: D/ICS Luncheon Meeting with Jon Thomas, State/INM, on 21 November 1985

5. In one sense, the increasing commitments of the Intelligence Community in support of tactical and/or operational narcotics interdiction have left INM in a sort of quandary as to the ways and means to effectively tap Community intelligence resources in the most active use of that word. The recent departure from INM of Clyde Taylor as Ambassador to Paraguay (Clyde kept in close touch with the IC Staff either personally or through [redacted] who acted as a sort of informal ombudsman for INM'S concerns) and the increasing and diversified workload of the NIO/Narcotics have exacerbated further INM's felt need to exercise a more participatory role in the application of intelligence assets in support of regional narcotics operations.

25X1

6. It is from this perspective that Jon Thomas and others in State probably see their participation in any such working group as outlined in [redacted]

25X1

25X1

Attachment: Bio on John R. Thomas

cc: D/ICS  
DD/ICS  
SA-D/ICS  
VC/CIPC

SECRET

25X1

SECRET/ [ ]

25X1

SUBJECT: (MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD) D/ICS Meeting with Jon Thomas, State/INM

Distribution:

orig - CIPC Subj file

1 - D/ICS

1 - D/ICS SA [ ]

1 - DD/ICS

1 - CIPC/VC

1 - CIPC/ES

1 - CIPC [ ]

1 - CIPC/Chrono

25X1

25X1

DCI/ICS/CIPC [ ]

(20 Nov 85)

25X1

SECRET [ ]

25X1

ATTACHMENT

JON R. THOMAS  
Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics Matters

Served as Deputy Assistant Secretary for INM since May 1982. Educated in international relations and economics at the University of Minnesota. Served three years with the US Army Special Forces (Green Berets), including a tour in Vietnam, where he received numerous combat decorations. In 1971 he joined the Department of State and was assigned overseas until 1977 in Spain and Switzerland.

From 1977 to 1981, Mr. Thomas served as President of the Mid-South Based Equipment Distributorship, in addition to serving on various related industry advisory boards.

He was active in political campaigns serving as Tennessee Chairman for George Bush during the primaries and later as Western Tennessee Chairman for Reagan.

He joined the Department of State early in 1981 and, before assuming his current duties, served as a senior manager of the Policy and Planning Staff where he was involved in formulating policies on US responses to international terrorism, crises management, and international information policy.

ADMINISTRATIVE - INTERNAL USE ONLY